Vote No. 543

October 27, 1995, 6:34 p.m. Page S-16025 Temp. Record

BALANCED BUDGET RECONCILIATION/Federal Asset Sales

SUBJECT: Balanced Budget Reconciliation Act of 1995 . . . S. 1357. Exon motion to waive the Budget Act for the consideration of the Bumpers amendment No. 3028.

ACTION: MOTION REJECTED, 49-50

SYNOPSIS: As reported, S. 1357, the Balanced Budget Reconciliation Act of 1995, will result in a balanced budget in seven years, as scored by the Congressional Budget Office (CBO). The bill will also provide a \$245 billion middle-class tax cut, \$141.4 billion of which will be to provide a \$500 per child tax credit.

The Bumpers amendment would add that for the purposes of the Budget Act, the amounts realized from sales of Federal assets would not be scored with respect to the level of budget authority, outlays, or revenues.

The amendment was offered after all debate time had expired. However, by unanimous consent, 1 minute of debate was allowed on the amendment. Further, statements on the amendment were inserted into the record. Following debate, Senator Domenici raised the point of order that the amendment violated the Byrd rule of the Budget Act. Senator Exon then moved to waive the Budget Act for the consideration of the amendment. Generally, those favoring the motion to waive opposed the amendment; those opposing the motion to waive favored the amendment.

NOTE: A three-fifths majority (60) vote of the Senate is required to waive the Budget Act. Following the failure of the motion to waive, the point of order was upheld and the amendment thus fell. For related debate on asset sales, see vote No. 183. For related debate on the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, see vote Nos. 190 and 525).

Those favoring the motion to waive contended:

Selling Federal assets is a foolish way to balance the budget. If asset sales are used for 5 percent of revenues in one year, the next year there will be a 5-percent shortfall unless even more assets are sold. Allowing the sale of assets to be scored in budget calculations will thus cause increasing pressure to sell more and more, until we squander our children's national heritage. Our children will be

(See other side)

YEAS (49)			NAYS (50)			NOT VOTING (0)	
Republicans	Democrats (46 or 100%)		Republicans (50 or 94%)		Democrats (0 or 0%)	Republicans	Democrats (0)
(3 or 6%)						(0)	
Chafee Cohen Snowe	Akaka Baucus Biden Bingaman Boxer Bradley Breaux Bryan Bumpers Byrd Conrad Daschle Dodd Dorgan Exon Feingold Feinstein Ford Glenn Graham Harkin Heflin Hollings	Inouye Johnston Kennedy Kerrey Kerry Kohl Lautenberg Leahy Levin Lieberman Mikulski Moseley-Braun Moynihan Murray Nunn Pell Pryor Reid Robb Rockefeller Sarbanes Simon Wellstone	Abraham Ashcroft Bennett Bond Brown Burns Campbell Coats Cochran Coverdell Craig D'Amato DeWine Donenici Faircloth Frist Gorton Gramm Grams Grams Grassley Gregg Hatch Hatfield Helms	Hutchison Inhofe Jeffords Kassebaum Kempthorne Kyl Lott Lugar Mack McCain McConnell Murkowski Nickles Pressler Roth Santorum Shelby Simpson Smith Specter Stevens Thomas Thompson Thurmond Warner		EXPLANAT 1—Official I 2—Necessar 3—Illness 4—Other SYMBOLS: AY—Annou AN—Annou PY—Paired PN—Paired	ily Absent inced Yea inced Nay Yea

VOTE NO. 543 OCTOBER 27, 1995

better of if public buildings, parks, powerplants, and other precious resources are owned by the Federal Government instead of by private citizens. We are most concerned that this sale will enable oil exploration in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to go forward. We therefore urge Senators to vote in favor of the motion to waive.

Those opposing the motion to waive contended:

We see no reason to explain yet again why the Senate should reject these propositions which it has already rejected this session.